

Henderson County Board of Health

Minutes

Regular Meeting – September 16, 2024

Classroom of the Henderson County Department of Public Health
1200 Spartanburg Highway Hendersonville, NC 28792

I. Call to Order

The Henderson County Board of Health meeting was called to order by Dr. John Bryant at 6:00 p.m. Dr. Bryant was elected to preside over the meeting in the absence of both the board chair and vice-chair.

Members Present	Bill Lapsley, County Commissioner John Bryant, General Public Member Samantha Roberts, Veterinarian Alison Reid, Dentist
Members Not Present	Scott Prechter, General Public Member Jennifer Hensley, General Public Member Kathleen Baluha, Registered Nurse Maggie Hayes, Physician – Chairperson Kenesha Smith, Pharmacist – Vice Chairperson Haley Perry, Optometrist Jeffrey Young, Professional Engineer
Staff Leadership Present	Dave Jenkins, Health Director Camden Stewart, Administrative Officer Stacy Nash, Community Health Director Seth Swift, Environmental Health Director Melanie McMurray, PHNIII- Lead Nurse Amy Brown, School Health

Quorum Absent

II. Public Comments

None.

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III. Approval of the Meeting Agenda

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The proposed meeting agenda could not be approved in the absence of a quorum. The agenda was only referenced during discussion by the board members present.

IV. Approval of the Consent Agenda

The consent agenda could not be approved in the absence of a quorum. The consent agenda item will be revisited in the October board meeting.

V. Presentations and Reports

Given most of the board's absence, the presentations and reports will be moved to October's meeting agenda.

VI. Old Business

None.

VII. New Business

BOH Policy Review

The BOH policies will be reviewed in the October board meeting.

October Training/Speaker

The board opted to skip this item due to most of the board's absence.

Disinterment/Reinterment

Mr. Jenkins, Health Director, shared information with the board regarding a potential need to disinter and reinter the remains of a body from a lot in Henderson County before the lot can be developed. The location of the remains is not easily identifiable as there are not gravestones or markers on the gravesite. Additionally, the deceased individual does not have identifiable next of kin, thus by NC General Statutes requires the County Commissioners Approval to relocate any remains. At the request of County administration, this topic was

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brought to the attention of the Board of Health for public discussion and awareness before being brought before the Board of Commissioners.

VIII. Board Member Remarks

Dr. Reid shared her concerns related to procedures used to communicate and enforce school vaccination requirements in Henderson County Public Schools. She spoke about

administration's role in interacting appropriately with students and parents about meeting requirements, discussing risks and benefits and options for exemptions.

Melanie McMurray, Lead Public Health School Nurse, was in attendance and explained the process that school nurses take for compliance – three notifications from the nurse of the school directly to the student's parent/guardian, not the student. That the student's parent may have received a letter, personal call, all-call/text from the school nurse notifying them of the vaccine required for enrollment in NC Public Schools and that the student would need to receive the vaccine(s) by the 30th day of school or send in a medical or religious exemption to be in compliance. After that the principal of each school is notified of those students not in compliance and at that point it is the administrator's responsibility to decide whether their school will exclude for non-compliance.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm.

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Respectfully submitted: David Jenkins
Secretary to the Board/Health Director

11/19/24
Date

Approved by the Henderson County Board of Health at the November 18, 2024 meeting.